

1.1 PURPOSE/SCOPE OF PLAN

This Geographic Response Plan (GRP) provides guidelines to quickly, safely and effectively respond to a petroleum spill in Cowlitz and Clark Counties that originates from the Olympic Pipeline, State Highways (I-5, 503, and 205), the railroad tracks running north and south along the Cowlitz River, and from the hydroelectric facilities along the North Fork of the Lewis River. Petroleum products entering the Columbia River will be responded to in accordance with existing Lower Columbia Geographic Response Plans.

This GRP is meant to supplement responder's training and experience during an actual response. Since each response is different, this GRP may not always contain all the information needed to manage a spill.

1.2 PLAN USE

This plan divides Cowlitz County into four geographic areas and Clark County into three geographic areas, each represented as a tab behind the county name tab. Each county tab contains an overview map showing the GRP's in the county along with waterway names and associated tab numbers. The Lower Columbia River GRP is contained in a separate tab at the back of the binder.

GRP's in Clark and Cowlitz County, which were developed in conjunction with the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife and the Washington Department of Ecology, are designed to be used for diesel and jet fuel spills between 500 and 1500 gallons at normal high-water flows. The majority of the photos included in this GRP were taken at water flow conditions that greatly exceed normal high flow, thus the actual water volume encountered by responders may be significantly less than shown in the photos. These GRP's may be used in other situations at the discretion of the Incident Command as weather, terrain, and spill conditions allow.

1.3 EMERGENCY HYDRAULIC PROJECT APPROVAL

- Siphon Dams, Culvert Blocks, and Debris Removal require Hydraulic Project Approval

Some of the response tactics illustrated in this GRP will reduce, interrupt or divert water flow of streams which may potentially cause damage to sensitive fish and wildlife habitat. Because of this potential, responders must receive Hydraulic Project Approval from the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife before using culvert blocks and siphon dams, or removing debris from streams. The Hydraulic Code (RCW 77.55.100) provides for immediate verbal approval in emergency situations. During normal working hours contact the nearest Department of Fish and Wildlife Office as described below:

Southwest Washington – Region 5 (360) 696-6211
Cowlitz, Clark, and Skamania Counties

Coastal Washington – Region 6 (360) 249-4628
Pacific County

During non-working hours contact (360) 902-2537.